Progress of Vadodara-Mumbai expressway

2852. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made regarding Vadodara-Mumbai Expressway;

(b) what are the phases of the planning and implementation;

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Government has frozen 300 m width land along the proposed alignment of Vadodara-Mumbai Expressway way back in 1991, if so, by when the land acquisition is likely to start; and

(d) whether any time frame has been decided by his Ministry for starting of construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Alignment of Vadodara-Mumbai Expressway has been finalized and consultant is appointed for feasibility study. Services for feasibility study have started in February, 2009 and likely to be completed within a period of one year. The various phases of the planning and implementation are: fixing the alignment, feasibility studies and facility planning, preparation of land plan schedule, acquisition of land, preparation of bidding document, appraisal and approval of the project, invitation of bids, award of concession, financial close, commencement of construction, completion of the expressway and start of commercial operation.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Process of land acquisition is likely to be started by April 2010. The construction work is likely to be started by April, 2012.

Opening of sub-ways for pedestrians on G.T. road

2853. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several sub-ways constructed at the G.T. Road are lying closed for the past several years resulting in deaths of pedestrians while crossing the road;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for not opening such sub-ways for pedestrians; and

(c) the time by when all such sub-ways will be made functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The subways at km 17.325, km 19.5, km 20.150, km 22 and km 61.5 on GT Road (NH-1) are closed due to construction work in progress. Subways at km 61.5 is targeted to be opened by 31.10.2009 and remaining subways are targeted to be opened by July, 2010.

Construction of new bridge on river Tista on NH 31

†2854. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.